Name of State	*No. of units set up*	
	1990	*1991*
1	*2*	*3*
Punjab	2	1
Uttar Pradesh	3	—
West Bengal	1	1

Action against Hoarding and Black-marketing

4950. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any drive against hoarders and blackmarketeers of essential commodities especially desi ghee and butter;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the price of butter and ghee of common brand on January, 1991; and

(d) steps the Government propose to take to see that butter and ghee prices do not increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d). The Central Government have advised the State Governments and U.T. Administrations to intensify their vigilance and enforcement activities for firm action against hoarders and blacmarketeers of all essential commodities. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been delegated suitable powers envisaged under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Desi ghee and Butter prices are not fixed by Government.

The State Government and UT Administrations take action on a regular basis to check hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities. No separate statistics regarding action taken by them in respect of Butter, ghee etc. are maintained by this Ministry.

The Wholesale Price Indices of Butter and Ghee in January, 1991 were 225.8 and 194.4 respectively.

Ghee and Butter Prices are determined by market forces of demand and supply etc.

Seniority of Employees sent under Indian Technical and Economic Co-operation Programme (ITEC)

4951. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the applications of the employees of various Public Sector Undertakings and the organisations, State Government Departments etc. forwarded through proper channel by the Department concerned for foreign assignments are registered by the department of Personnel only when such